

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-14 and 16-22 are pending and under consideration in the above-identified application. Claims 8 and 15 have been previously cancelled.

In the Final Office Action dated October 6, 2009, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 5, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 18-22. Claims 2-4, 6, 10, 12, 13 and 17 were objected to, but deemed to have allowable subject matter.

With this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 21 were amended to include allowable subject matter and for clarification purposes and claims 6 and 12 were cancelled. No new matter has been introduced as a result of the Amendment.

I. Objection To Claims

Claims 2-4, 6, 10, 12, 13 and 17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but deemed to have allowable subject matter. Claims 1, 11 and 18 were amended to include the allowable subject matter noted by the Examiner. Accordingly, the remaining claims now depend on a base claim that contains allowable subject matter. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the above objection be withdrawn.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all claims are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully requests early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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